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Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks (STLT)

Assembly

**Twelfth (6th Ordinary) Session
Geneva, September 30 to October 9, 2019**

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION REGARDING THE SINGAPORE TREATY ON THE LAW OF TRADEMARKS (STLT)

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. In its Resolution Supplementary to the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks (hereinafter referred to as “the Singapore Treaty”), the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty, held in Singapore in March 2006, requested the Assembly of the Singapore Treaty to monitor and evaluate, at every ordinary session, the progress of the assistance related to implementation efforts and the benefits resulting from such implementation (paragraph 8 of the Resolution Supplementary to the Singapore Treaty, adopted by the Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Revised Trademark Law Treaty, Singapore, March 13 to 27, 2006).
2. At its 1st ordinary session, the Assembly of the Singapore Treaty agreed that Contracting Parties would communicate to the Secretariat any information on technical assistance activities related to the implementation of the Singapore Treaty and that the Secretariat would compile the information received and present it, together with all relevant information from its own technical assistance activities, to the next ordinary session of the Assembly of the Singapore Treaty (document STLT/A/1/2, paragraph 4, and document STLT/A/1/4, paragraph 10).

3. On that basis, the Secretariat has regularly submitted to the Assembly of the Singapore Treaty information on technical assistance and cooperation for developing and least developed countries to implement and take full advantage of the Singapore Treaty. This information included the activities of the WIPO Secretariat as well as those communicated by Contracting Parties to the Secretariat.

4. The related activities for the period from June 2017 to May 2019 are included in Annex I. Further information is available in the WIPO Intellectual Property Technical Assistance Database (IP-TAD; <http://www.wipo.int/tad/>) and the Secretariat may be contacted as required.

5. A list of STLT Contracting Parties, as of May 2019, is contained in Annex II, for information purposes.

6. The Assembly of the Singapore Treaty is invited to take note of the information on "Technical Assistance and Cooperation Regarding the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks (STLT)" (document STLT/A/12/1).

[Annexes follow]

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION
FOR DEVELOPING AND LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE SINGAPORE TREATY ON THE LAW OF TRADEMARKS (STLT)
FOR THE PERIOD OF JUNE 2017 TO MAY 2019

1. From June 2017 to May 2019, the WIPO Secretariat provided technical assistance and cooperation to developing and least developed countries¹ with a view to facilitating the implementation of the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks (STLT)². The assistance covered two main areas: (a) Establishment of an enabling legal framework and (b) Awareness raising and information activities.

2. These activities were aligned with the Development Agenda recommendations aiming at strengthening institutional and technical infrastructure of IP offices and institutions.

A. Establishment of an Enabling Legal Framework

3. During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to provide, on request, legislative advice on STLT draft implementing national trademark provisions. Depending on the individual requirements, the International Bureau sent written commentaries on draft legal texts, organized expert missions to prospective acceding countries or hosted study visits at WIPO headquarters.

4. This type of assistance was provided to Angola, Bahrain, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Curacao, Djibouti, Ecuador, Fiji, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, Peru, Rwanda and the Syrian Arab Republic.

B. Awareness Raising and Information Activities

5. During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to provide assistance through awareness raising and information activities concerning the administrative and procedural features introduced by the Treaty. Such activities included seminars and workshops at the national, sub-regional and regional level, organized in partnership with national IP Offices, as well as with the IP Key Project of the European Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) and the WIPO Office in Singapore.

6. Representatives of the following countries attended these activities: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

[Annex II follows]

¹ The technical assistance and cooperation was provided both to STLT Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Parties, independently of whether or not they were in the process of acceding to, or ratifying, the STLT.

² This report includes activities that were undertaken in relation to the Trademark Law Treaty (TLT), the international instrument that was revised by the Singapore Treaty and which therefore contains all the substantive provisions included in the latter.

Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks
(Singapore 2006)
Status on May 7, 2019

| State/IGO | Date on which State/IGO became party to the Treaty |
|---|--|
| Afghanistan..... | May 14, 2017 |
| African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) ^{1,2} | February 13, 2016 |
| Armenia..... | September 17, 2013 |
| Australia..... | March 16, 2009 |
| Belarus..... | May 13, 2014 |
| Belgium..... | January 8, 2014 |
| Benelux Organization for Intellectual Property..... | January 8, 2014 |
| Benin..... | February 13, 2016 |
| Bulgaria ¹ | March 16, 2009 |
| Canada..... | June 17, 2019 |
| Croatia..... | April 13, 2011 |
| Democratic People's Republic of Korea..... | September 13, 2016 |
| Denmark ³ | March 16, 2009 |
| Estonia..... | August 14, 2009 |
| France..... | November 28, 2009 |
| Finland..... | August 7, 2019 |
| Germany..... | September 20, 2013 |
| Iceland..... | December 14, 2012 |
| Iraq..... | November 29, 2014 |
| Ireland..... | March 21, 2016 |
| Italy..... | September 21, 2010 |
| Japan ⁴ | June 11, 2016 |
| Kazakhstan..... | September 5, 2012 |
| Kyrgyzstan..... | March 16, 2009 |
| Latvia..... | March 16, 2009 |
| Liechtenstein..... | March 3, 2010 |
| Lithuania..... | August 14, 2013 |
| Luxemburg..... | January 8, 2014 |
| Mali..... | February 13, 2016 |
| Mongolia..... | March 3, 2011 |
| Netherlands ⁵ | January 8, 2014 |
| New Zealand ⁶ | December 10, 2012 |
| North Macedonia..... | October 6, 2010 |
| Peru..... | December 27, 2018 |
| Poland..... | July 2, 2009 |
| Republic of Korea..... | July 1, 2016 |
| Republic of Moldova..... | March 16, 2009 |
| Romania..... | March 16, 2009 |
| Russian Federation..... | December 18, 2009 |
| Serbia..... | November 19, 2010 |
| Singapore..... | March 16, 2009 |
| Slovakia..... | May 16, 2010 |
| Spain ¹ | May 18, 2009 |
| Sweden..... | December 16, 2011 |
| Switzerland..... | March 16, 2009 |
| Tajikistan..... | December 26, 2014 |

¹ With the declaration provided for in Article 29(4).

² With the declaration provided for in Article 29(2).

³ Not applicable to the Faroe Islands nor to Greenland.

⁴ With the declaration provided for in Article 29(1).

⁵ Accession for the Kingdom in Europe and the Netherlands Antilles. The Netherlands Antilles ceased to exist on October 10, 2010. As from that date, the Treaty continues to apply to Curaçao and Sint Maarten. The Treaty also continues to apply to the islands of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba which, with effect from October 10, 2010, have become part of the territory of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Europe.

⁶ This ratification shall not extend to Tokelau unless and until a declaration to this effect is lodged by the Government of New Zealand with the Depositary on the basis of appropriate consultation with that territory.

| <u>State/IGO</u> | <u>Date on which State/IGO became party to the Treaty</u> |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Ukraine..... | May 24, 2010 |
| United Kingdom..... | June 21, 2012 |
| United States of America..... | March 16, 2009 |

(Total: 49)

[End of Annex II and of document]